

—HISTORICAL SKETCH—

OF THE

Fifth Mississippi Regiment.

- A. E. FANT, Newton county.....Colonel.
 S. F. FAUCETT, Winston county.....Lieut-Colonel.
 A. T. STERMIS, Kemper county.....Major.
 J. W. JOHNSON.....Adjutant.

COMPANIES.

- Co. A—Bogue Chitto Rangers, Philadelphia, Neshoba Co., Capt. George W. Ryan; 1st Lieut George F. Peek; 2d Lieut Benjamin Buckley, 3d Lieut, John W. Courliest;
 Co. B—Red Rovers, Athens. Monroe county; Capt. R. J. Armstrong; 1st Lieut L.B. Fowler; 2d Lieut T. Crump. 3d Lieut W. M. Weaver—59 men.
 Co. C—Red's Invincibles was organized at Emory, Holmes county, Miss., June 1, 1861, with the following officers: Captain Dr. W. C. Red; 1st Lieut. J. T. Alexander; 2d Lieut Dr. R. D. Meek; 3d Lieut J. J. Williams; Orderly Sergeant Dr. R. T. Wilson; 2d Sergt W. R. Kirkpatrick, 3d Lieut W. R. Cade; 4th Sergt S. G. Alexander; 5th Sergt Dr. Will Gilliam; 1st Corporal, W. J. Wallace.
 Co. D—New Prospect Grays, Louisville, Winston county; Capt. John Wier; 1st Lieut John Quarles; 2nd Lieut W. J. Hannel; 3rd Lieut James R. Ware—64 men.
 Co. E—Lauderdale Springs Grays, Lauderdale county, Capt. B. B. Booth; 1st Lieut D.O. McWhorter; 2d Lieut S. C. Dennis; 3d Lieut W. R.—54 men.
 Co. F—Barry Guards, West Point, Monroe County, Capt. M. L. Womax; 1st Lieut B. D. Latimer; 2d Lieut D. W. Adrain—60 men.
 Co. G—Winston Rifles, Louisville, Winston county; Capt. J. A. Comfort; 1st Lieut, S. L. Faucett; 2d Lieut W. F. M. Woodward; 3d Lieut Wallace W. Curran; Wm. W. McMillan, 1st Sergt; John F. 2d Sergt; Jas. L. Dallas,

- 3d Sergt; R. Dukes, 4th Sergt; Ben. F. Parks, 5th Sergt; Thomas L. Hudspeth, 1st Corporal; P. Angus Hickman, 2d Corporal; Paschal W. Thompson, 3d Corporal.—Total 84 men.
 Co. H—Kemper Rebels, Peden, Kemper county; Capt. A. T. Stevens, 1st Lieut T. C. K. Bostwick; 2d Lieut Allen J. Henderson; 3d Lieut James D. Pedan—68 men.
 Co. I—Noxubee Blues, Louisville Winston county, Capt. A. E. Fant; 1st Lieut R. W. Featherston; 2d Lieut John O. Chambers; 3d Lieut D. H. Thomas—56 men.
 Co. K—Scotland Guards, Laurel Hill, Neshoba county, Capt. Z. Booth; 1st Lieut John K. Cooper; 2d Lieut W. McBeth, 3d Lieut J. Williams—48 men.
 Total number including staff and field officers—700 men.

Organized at Enterprise, Clarke Co., Miss., Feb. 1, 1861. Ordered to Pensacola, Florida, for 12 months service Army of Pensacola, Braxton Bragg, Commander.

Attached to Army of Mississippi, Army of Tennessee.

PROMOTIONS—James R. Kidd, Colonel; John Wier, Colonel; W. L. Sykes, Lieut-Colonel; B. H. Herring, Major.

Brigade Commanders—Chalmer's Brigade at Shiloh; Cleburne's Brigade at Bowling Green; Sam Jones Brigade at Pensacola; John K. Jackson's Brigade at Murfreesboro, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Atlanta, Jonesboro, Franklin and Nashville.

Division Commanders—At Pensacola, Ruggle's; At Shiloh Withers; at Murfreesboro, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Atlanta, Jonesboro, Franklin and Nashville, Walker.

Army Commanders—A. S. Johnston, G. T. Beauregard, Braxton Bragg, Leonadas Polk, Wm. J. Hardee, and Jos. E. Johnson.

Service—States of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, North and South Carolina, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee.

BATTLES—Pensacola, Shiloh, Murfreesboro, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Georgia Campaign, Dalton, Resaca, New Hope Church, Kennesaw Mountain, Atlanta, July 22d 28th, and Seige, Jonesboro, Columbia, Franklin, Nashville, and at surrender Johnson's Army in North Carolina.

RECORD OF SERVICE.

BATTLE OF CHICKAMAUGA.

OFFICIAL REPORT.

REPORT OF MAJOR JOHN B. HERRING, FIFTH MISSISSIPPI
INFANTRY REGIMENT.

I have the honor to submit the following report of the action of this regiment in the battle of Chickamauga on 19th and 20th November 1863:

Having formed line of battle assigned us, we advanced to attack the enemy 12 m. We advanced not more than 100 yards when we were attacked by the enemy directly in front, who were also advancing. We returned the fire vigorously, and in a few minutes enemies line gave way and we drove them back a mile. They at last made a stand, and we failed to move them owing to a lack of ammunition. We however maintained our position gallantly, though exposed to a galling fire from the enemy, until Lieut-Colonel Sykes observing that the line had retired on the left, gave the command to fall back. We fell back 100 yards, faced about and renewed the fight. In a short time we fell back about 100 yards further with the Eighth Mississippi, which up to this time had not moved from its most advanced position, and having formed a new line we held the enemy in check though though hard pressed. Here fell Lieut-Col. Sykes, a gallant officer, faithfully discharging his duties. Here I received a message from Col. Wilkinson that if I should be forced to fall back to notify him. We held this position and stopped the advance of the enemy I suppose a half hour. We had gone but a short distance before we fell in with General Jackson, who ordered a halt, and directed us to form a line of battle near the road to bring on the attack. The enemy advanced and attacked us in this position, but was soon repulsed.

A little before dark I advanced my command in the second line. Near a small house 400 yards from the road,

I came upon a line around the house lying down and firing. I closed on it, and caused my men to deliver a few rounds. The front line finally fell back and caused the second line to break. I rallied my men in the woods east of the enclosure, and advanced until I found myself alone. I went to define my relative position to the rest of the brigade. I saw the Eighth Mississippi on my right advancing from the position where I had placed my regiment, and gave the command forward, and soon came upon the prolongation of line, the rest of the brigade closing upon my left.

I formed with the brigade closing upon my left. I formed with the brigade on the front line 150 yards west of the house there being at this time no troops directly to our front on the first line. I fell back to the road about midnight by order of Gen. Jackson.

My loss during the day was 4 killed and 46 wounded, and among the latter, the adjutant mortally and one missing.

On Sunday 20, the line of battle was advanced about 4 p. m. I was ordered to conform to the movement of the right, but coming first within range of the enemies fire I commenced firing. I kept up a continuous fire for near one hour, exposed all the time to a front and cross-fire from the enemy. I advanced with the whole brigade, and occupied a new position 100 yards in advance of my first position, and almost the identical position from which the enemy first opened on my command on opening of fight. I fought in this position until my ammunition was completely exhausted, when I was relieved at dark by reinforcements.

I carried into the fight 144 muskets. I lost 25 men wounded, and captured 30 prisoners, and sent to the rear 200 Springfield and Enfield Rifles which the enemy had abandoned on the battle-field.

I have never saw men fight better and behave more gallantly than on this battle-field—Chickamauga, "The River of Death."

JOHN B. HERRING.
Major-Commanding.

Capt. S. A. Moreno, Assistant Adjutant General.